

REMARKS

In view of the above Amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-14 and 16 are now present in this application. Claims 1, 7 and 12 are independent.

Amendments have been made to claims 1, 7 and 12. Claim 15 has been canceled. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Priority Under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of the certified priority document.

Information Disclosure Citation

Applicant thanks the Examiner for citing on a PTO-892 the references that were cited in the International Search Report.

Drawings

Since no objection has been received, Applicant assumes that the drawings are acceptable and that no further action is necessary. Confirmation thereof in the next Office Action is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12, 13 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Souza. Claims 1, 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Park. Further, claims 1, 2, 7-10, 12 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yang. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Complete discussions of the Examiner's rejections are set forth in the Office Action, and are not being repeated here.

With regard to the rejection of independent claim 12, while not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 12 has been amended to include the limitations of objected-to allowable claim 15, thereby automatically placing independent claim 12 into condition for allowance, along with the claims dependent therefrom.

Similarly, independent claims 1 and 7 have also been amended to include the limitations of objected-to allowable claim 15. More specifically, independent claim 7 has been amended to recite a combination of steps in a controlling method of a drying apparatus, including wherein the elapsed time is a time that the stored output quantity takes to reach a minimum sensed value during a drying of a small load. Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite a combination of elements in a drying apparatus for drying laundry inside a drum thereof, including a controller that calculates an elapsed time, wherein the elapsed time is a time that the stored output quantity takes to reach a minimum sensed value during a drying of a small load. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 7 are believed to be allowable, along with the claims dependent therefrom. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states that claims 11, 14 and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the early indication of allowable subject matter in this application. As set forth above, the limitations of objected-to claim 15 have been added into independent claim 12, and therefore independent claim 12 should be in condition for allowance, along with the claims dependent therefrom. Objected-to claims 11 and 14 have not been amended at this time since they dependent from claim 7 and 12, which are believed to be allowable.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and

complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

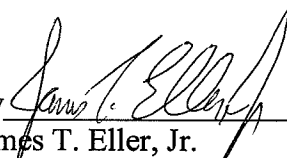
If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone James T. Eller, Jr., Registration No. 39,538, at (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: SEP 25 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By 
James T. Eller, Jr.

Registration No.: 39,538
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant